

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore: WATER

None of the features that make Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore special would exist without water! In addition to the shoreline itself there are rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, springs, wetlands, marshes, and swamps. Use the links provided to help you answer the following questions about water in our park.

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/lakesandponds.htm>

1. How many lakes and ponds are there within the park?

2. What kinds of things pose a risk to the health of these ecosystems?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/rivers.htm>

3. What are the names of the rivers that flow within the Lakeshore?

4. What are the names of the streams that flow within the Lakeshore?

5. What mammals can sometimes be seen swimming in the rivers and streams?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/springs.htm>

6. Springs provide habitat within the Lakeshore for which rare flower?

7. What is it about the springs on the Manitou Islands that make them important frog and salamander breeding habitat?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/wetlands.htm>

8. How many acres of wetland habitat have been identified within the Lakeshore?

9. How were they created?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/beaches.htm>

10. How many miles of shoreline are located within the Lakeshore?

11. Why is the water becoming clearer?

Link: <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/naturescience/coasts.htm>

12. How does wave action affect the shoreline?

13. In which direction does the current cause sand and gravel to move along the shoreline?

14. OPINION: Based on what you've learned in this activity, write a brief paragraph describing how WATER is protected and preserved by Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.
